

Desk Statement for Commencement of Area 1 and 2 Additional Characterization

The additional characterization work planned for Areas 1 and 2 of the West Lake Landfill Site is critical work needed to support a remedy decision.

On 9/3/2015 EPA gave the Potentially Responsible Parties' (PRPs) approval to proceed with the work in Areas 1 and 2 and subsequently directed them to begin implementation only after EPA's review of the Missouri Attorney General's recently released reports. After an initial review of the AG reports, EPA now believes that the planned work in Areas 1 and 2 should commence.

The EPA has determined that the approved work plans and site Health and Safety plans provide sufficient protocols to ensure protection of site workers and the public during field activities in Areas 1 and 2.

These plans contain specific protective measures related to clearing of site vegetation, dust suppression and monitoring of personnel and equipment for radioactive contamination, as well as decontamination if needed prior to exiting the work areas.

As a reminder, both the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and Republic Services have on-site air monitors designed and operated to detect releases of radioactivity, among other things.

In addition, in order to ensure that the protective measures are implemented appropriately, all field activities will be overseen by a certified Health Physicist and by trained EPA personnel.

Copies of the approved work plans and site Health and Safety plans can be found on EPA's West Lake Landfill webpage - [insert link](#).

The planned work in Areas 1 and 2 is another important step as we move toward a final remedy decision, which is EPA's top priority at the site.